

New librarian sees 'a lot of potential' for Camas facility

By WINNIE SHINN
POST Special Writer

When Carolyn Langham came to town last week to head the staff at the Camas Public Library, she found a friendly town, a competent staff, a dedicated library board, and a building expanding to accommodate a growing library need. Those were her observations. She was pleased.

Camas will be equally pleased with Miss Langham. She is also friendly, competent and dedicated.

"I like to be called Carolyn," was one of her first remarks, immediately establishing an easy rapport with the public.

One of her main objectives is to promote the library and its services so that it will be useful to more people. "The new size, made possible by the current remodeling, has a lot of potential," she observed.

It is her hope that artists will display their crafts there, that programs can be held there; that display cases can be installed for other exhibits. Target date for completion of the facility is Nov. 15.

"The budget has real promise," she enthused. "The per capita support for an average library is \$4-\$5. In Camas it is \$12. That gives us something to work with!"

Her staff includes two full-time members, Verna Hughes and Cindy Ammeter, five part-time assistants, Daphne Raynor, Lynn Pierson, Helene Wygant, Dawn Pratt and Marilyn Crane, and substitute Julie Suver.

Born in Centralia, Miss Langham, who succeeds William Wightman, had her first library experience in Montesano, in the sixth grade, as a helper. "I started at the bottom," she laughed. She has been involved ever since, giving her a good foundation and understanding.

Both her bachelor's degree and her master's in library science were earned at the University of Washington. She has been with the Spokane County Library for the past four years.

"Basically, I'm people-oriented," she explained. "I enjoy administration, it is a challenge, but I do not want that exclusively. That is why I didn't go to a larger library. I don't want to be remote. I want to give book talks, hold story hours, work with both adults and children. It is rewarding to help people."

Knowledgeable, articulate, outgoing, with a strong sense of library potential, Carolyn Langham says, "We have something for you, come and get it!"



CAROLYN LANGHAM
. . .Heads Camas library staff